

Thinking ethically: Rational vs Impulsive Decisions

1.Rohan regretted his reaction because his teacher later showed him the evaluation sheet, revealing that Mehul had genuinely performed better in certain areas. Rohan realised he had accused the judges unfairly and posted an angry message without knowing the full facts. His impulsive, emotion-driven response caused embarrassment and regret, showing how acting without pausing to think can lead to poor, unfair decisions.

2.Impulsive reactions are quick responses driven by strong emotions like anger or jealousy, without careful thought. In ethical situations, they can lead to unfair or harmful outcomes—such as blaming someone without facts or breaking rules under peer pressure. As Rohan's story shows, acting impulsively often causes regret, while pausing to reason leads to fairer, more respectful decisions.

3.Gathering complete information matters because acting on partial facts can lead to unfair or harmful outcomes, just as Rohan accused the judges without checking the evaluation sheet. Complete information lets you understand the real situation, consider different perspectives, and evaluate consequences, so your decision reflects logic, fairness, and values rather than emotion.

4.Thinking from different perspectives means imagining how others feel and what they might be experiencing. This helps you understand the full situation instead of judging quickly. For example, in Rohan's case, considering Mehul's hard work or the judges' view would have shown fairness. It prevents bias and leads to respectful, balanced choices.

5.Before making an important decision, ask yourself: Is my action fair to everyone involved? Am I acting responsibly? What could be the consequences of my decision? Would I feel comfortable if others knew about my action? These ethical questions guide rational thinking, helping you weigh fairness, responsibility, and outcomes rather than reacting impulsively based on emotion alone.

6. Reflective thinking helps you look back at your actions, understand your mistakes, and improve your future decisions. In the story, Rohan reflected on his impulsive behaviour after learning the truth, which made him realise the importance of thinking before reacting. By reflecting, you learn from experience and choose wiser, fairer actions next time.